



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ELEVEN MEN ARRESTED ON FEDERAL CHARGES FOR FAILING TO
REGISTER AS SEX OFFENDERS**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that federal and state law enforcement officers recently wrapped-up Operation Guardian West, a multi-agency operation targeting registered sex offenders in the El Paso area who were required, but failed to maintain their registration as a sex offender.

Operation Guardian West was designed to investigate offenders' compliance with registration requirements and for those found to be non-compliant, to secure either federal or state criminal complaints seeking their prosecution. This operation was designed to compliment existing city and county registration compliance initiatives.

"Convicted sex offenders are clearly a danger to our community, so it's vital that we know if one is living in our neighborhood," stated United States Attorney Johnny Sutton.

Those who have been charged by either federal complaint or indictment include:

John Charles Fox, failure to register as a sex offender and possession of child pornography
Booker Rogers (recently deceased), failure to register as a sex offender
Raymond Chavez, failure to register as a sex offender
Anthony Kebodeaux, failure to register as a sex offender
Jose Cabral, failure to register as a sex offender
Leroy Byrd, failure to register as a sex offender
Gary Heth, failure to register as a sex offender
Edwin Sanders, failure to register as a sex offender
Steven Santana-Smith, failure to register as a sex offender
James McBroom, failure to register as a sex offender
Mark Martinez, failure to register as a sex offender

This operation is being investigated by the United States Marshals Service with the assistance from the El Paso Police Department and the El Paso County Sheriff's Department and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney J. Brandy Gardes.

A criminal complaint or indictment is merely a charge and should not be considered as evidence of guilt. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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